



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 457

February Session, 2004

* _____SB00457HS_APP031104_____*

AN ACT CONCERNING RESTORATION OF SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 42 of public act 03-3 of the June
2 30 special session is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4 (b) [No earlier than September 1, 2003, but not later than October 1,
5 2003, the] The state-administered general assistance program
6 [pursuant to this section and any general assistance program operated
7 by a town] shall provide cash assistance of (1) [two hundred] three
8 hundred fifty dollars per month to a single unemployable person upon
9 determination of such person's unemployability; (2) two hundred
10 dollars per month for a single transitional individual who is required
11 to pay for shelter; and (3) one hundred fifty dollars per month for a
12 single transitional individual who is not required to pay for shelter.
13 [No earlier than September 1, 2003, but not later than October 1, 2003,
14 eligible families shall receive cash assistance in an amount that is fifty
15 dollars less than the standard of assistance such family would receive
16 under the temporary family assistance program.] The standard of
17 assistance paid for individuals residing in rated boarding facilities,
18 shall remain at the level in effect on August 31, 2003. No individual
19 shall be eligible for cash assistance under the program if eligible for

20 cash assistance under any other state or federal cash assistance
21 program.

22 Sec. 2. Section 17b-257 of the general statutes, as amended by section
23 18 of public act 03-2 and section 43 of public act 03-3 of the June 30
24 special session, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
25 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

26 (a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall implement a state
27 medical assistance component of the state-administered general
28 assistance program for persons ineligible for Medicaid. [Not later than
29 October 1, 2003, each] Each person eligible for state-administered
30 general assistance shall be entitled to receive medical care through a
31 federally qualified health center or other primary care provider as
32 determined by the commissioner. The Commissioner of Social Services
33 shall determine appropriate service areas and shall, in the
34 commissioner's discretion, contract with community health centers,
35 other similar clinics, and other primary care providers, if necessary, to
36 assure access to primary care services for recipients who live farther
37 than a reasonable distance from a federally qualified health center. The
38 commissioner shall assign and enroll eligible persons in federally
39 qualified health centers and with any other providers contracted for
40 the program because of access needs. [Not later than October 1, 2003,
41 each] Each person eligible for state-administered general assistance
42 shall be entitled to receive hospital services. Medical services under the
43 program shall be limited to the services provided by a federally
44 qualified health center, hospital, or other provider contracted for the
45 program at the commissioner's discretion because of access needs. The
46 commissioner shall ensure that ancillary services and specialty services
47 are provided by a federally qualified health center, hospital, or other
48 providers contracted for the program at the commissioner's discretion.
49 Ancillary services include, but are not limited to, radiology, laboratory,
50 and other diagnostic services not available from a recipient's assigned
51 primary-care provider, and durable medical equipment. Specialty
52 services are services provided by a physician with a specialty that are
53 not included in ancillary services. In no event, shall ancillary or

54 specialty services provided under the program exceed such services
55 provided under the state-administered general assistance program on
56 July 1, 2003. Eligibility criteria concerning income shall be the same as
57 the medically needy component of the Medicaid program, except that
58 earned monthly gross income of up to one hundred fifty dollars shall
59 be disregarded. Unearned income shall not be disregarded. No person
60 who has family assets exceeding one thousand dollars shall be eligible.
61 No person eligible for Medicaid shall be eligible to receive medical
62 care through the state-administered general assistance program.

63 (b) Recipients covered by a general assistance program operated by
64 a town shall be assigned and enrolled in federally qualified health
65 centers and with any other providers in the same manner as recipients
66 of medical assistance under the state-administered general assistance
67 program pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

68 (c) On and after October 1, 2003, pharmacy services shall be
69 provided to recipients of state-administered general assistance through
70 the federally qualified health center to which they are assigned or
71 through a pharmacy with which the health center contracts. Prior to
72 said date, pharmacy services shall be provided as provided under the
73 Medicaid program. Recipients who are assigned to a community
74 health center or similar clinic or primary care provider other than a
75 federally qualified health center or to a federally qualified health
76 center that does not have a contract for pharmacy services shall receive
77 pharmacy services at pharmacies designated by the commissioner.

78 [(d) Recipients of state-administered general assistance shall
79 contribute a copayment of one dollar and fifty cents for each
80 prescription.]

81 [(e)] (d) The Commissioner of Social Services shall contract with
82 federally qualified health centers or other primary care providers as
83 necessary to provide medical services to eligible state-administered
84 general assistance recipients pursuant to this section. The
85 commissioner shall [, within available appropriations,] make payments

86 to such centers based on their pro rata share of the cost of services
87 provided or the number of clients served, or both. The Commissioner
88 of Social Services shall [, within available appropriations,] make
89 payments to other providers based on a methodology determined by
90 the commissioner. The Commissioner of Social Services may reimburse
91 for extraordinary medical services, provided such services are
92 documented to the satisfaction of the commissioner. For purposes of
93 this section, the commissioner may contract with a managed care
94 organization or other entity to perform administrative functions.
95 Provisions of a contract for medical services entered into by the
96 commissioner pursuant to this section shall supersede any inconsistent
97 provision in the regulations of Connecticut state agencies.

98 [(f)] (e) Each federally qualified health center participating in the
99 program shall, within thirty days of August 20, 2003, enroll in the
100 federal Office of Pharmacy Affairs Section 340B drug discount
101 program established pursuant to 42 USC 256b to provide pharmacy
102 services to recipients at Federal Supply Schedule costs. Each such
103 health center may establish an on-site pharmacy or contract with a
104 commercial pharmacy to provide such pharmacy services.

105 [(g)] (f) The Commissioner of Social Services shall [, within available
106 appropriations,] make payments to hospitals for inpatient services
107 based on their pro rata share of the cost of services provided or the
108 number of clients served, or both. The Commissioner of Social Services
109 shall [, within available appropriations,] make payments for any
110 ancillary or specialty services provided to state-administered general
111 assistance recipients under this section based on a methodology
112 determined by the commissioner.

113 [(h)] (g) [On or before March 1, 2004, the] The Commissioner of
114 Social Services shall seek a waiver of federal law under the Health
115 Insurance Flexibility and Accountability demonstration initiative for
116 the purpose of extending health insurance coverage under Medicaid to
117 persons qualifying for medical assistance under the state-administered
118 general assistance program. The provisions of section 17b-8 shall apply

119 to this section.

120 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 44 of public 03-3 of the June 30
121 special session is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
122 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

123 (b) A recipient of state-administered general assistance cash
124 assistance aggrieved by a decision of the Commissioner of Social
125 Services under the program operated pursuant to section 42 of [this
126 act] public act 03-3 of the June 30 special session may request a hearing
127 pursuant to section 17b-60, [but shall not be] and shall remain eligible
128 for the continuation of cash assistance pending a hearing decision.

129 Sec. 4. Section 17b-295 of the general statutes, as amended by section
130 55 of public act 03-3 of the June 30 special session, is repealed and the
131 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

132 (a) The commissioner [shall impose cost-sharing requirements
133 including] may require the payment of a premium or copayment in
134 connection with services provided under the HUSKY Plan, Part B [, to
135 the extent permitted by federal law, and] in accordance with the
136 following limitations:

137 [(1) On and after October 1, 2003, the commissioner may increase
138 the maximum annual aggregate cost sharing requirements provided
139 that such cost-sharing requirements shall not exceed five per cent of
140 the family's gross annual income. The commissioner may impose a
141 premium requirement on families, whose income exceeds one hundred
142 eighty-five per cent of the federal poverty level as a component of the
143 family's cost-sharing responsibility provided the family's annual
144 combined premiums and copayments do not exceed the maximum
145 annual aggregate cost-sharing requirement; and]

146 (1) On and after the effective date of this section, the commissioner
147 shall submit a schedule for the maximum annual aggregate cost-
148 sharing for families with an income: (A) Which exceeds one hundred
149 eighty-five per cent of the federal poverty level but does not exceed

150 two hundred thirty-five per cent of the federal poverty level, and (B)
151 which exceeds two hundred thirty-five per cent of the federal poverty
152 level but does not exceed three hundred per cent of the federal poverty
153 level to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
154 cognizance of matters relating to human services, public health,
155 insurance and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. Not
156 later than fifteen days after the receipt of such schedule, said joint
157 standing committees of the General Assembly shall advise the
158 commissioner of their approval, denial or modifications, if any, of the
159 schedule. If the joint standing committees do not concur, the
160 committee chairpersons shall appoint a committee of conference which
161 shall be comprised of three members from each joint standing
162 committee. At least one member appointed from each committee shall
163 be a member of the minority party. The report of the committee of
164 conference shall be made to each committee, which shall vote to accept
165 or reject the report. The report of the committee on conference may not
166 be amended. If a joint standing committee rejects the report of the
167 committee on conference, the schedule submitted by the commissioner
168 shall be deemed approved. If the joint standing committees accept the
169 report, the committee having cognizance of matters relating to
170 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies shall advise the
171 commissioner of their approval or modifications, if any, of the
172 schedule, provided if the committees do not so advise the
173 commissioner during the fifteen day period, the schedule submitted by
174 the commissioner shall be deemed approved.

175 (2) The commissioner shall require each managed care plan to
176 monitor copayments and premiums under the provisions of
177 subdivision (1) of this subsection.

178 (b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the
179 commissioner may impose limitations on the amount, duration and
180 scope of benefits under the HUSKY Plan, Part B.

181 (2) The limitations adopted by the commissioner pursuant to
182 subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not preclude coverage of any

183 item of durable medical equipment or service that is medically
184 necessary.

185 Sec. 5. Section 17b-292 of the general statutes, as amended by section
186 7 of public act 03-2 and section 56 of public act 03-3 of the June 30
187 special session, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
188 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

189 (a) A child who resides in a household with a family income which
190 exceeds one hundred eighty-five per cent of the federal poverty level
191 and does not exceed three hundred per cent of the federal poverty
192 level may be eligible for subsidized benefits under the HUSKY Plan,
193 Part B. [The services and cost-sharing requirements under the HUSKY
194 Plan, Part B shall be substantially similar to the services and cost-
195 sharing requirements of the largest commercially available health plan
196 offered by a managed care organization, as defined in section 38a-478,
197 offered to residents in this state as measured by the number of covered
198 lives reported to the Department of Insurance in the most recent
199 audited annual report.]

200 (b) A child who resides in a household with a family income over
201 three hundred per cent of the federal poverty level may be eligible for
202 unsubsidized benefits under the HUSKY Plan, Part B.

203 (c) Whenever a court or family support magistrate orders a
204 noncustodial parent to provide health insurance for a child, such
205 parent may provide for coverage under the HUSKY Plan, Part B.

206 (d) A child who has been determined to be eligible for benefits
207 under either the HUSKY Plan, Part A or Part B shall remain eligible for
208 such plan for a period of twelve months from such child's
209 determination of eligibility unless the child attains the age of nineteen
210 or is no longer a resident of the state.

211 [(d)] (e) To the extent allowed under federal law, the commissioner
212 shall not pay for services or durable medical equipment under the
213 HUSKY Plan, Part B if the enrollee has other insurance coverage for

214 the services or such equipment.

215 [(e)] (f) A newborn child who otherwise meets the eligibility criteria
216 for the HUSKY Plan, Part B shall be eligible for benefits retroactive to
217 his date of birth, provided an application is filed on behalf of the child
218 within thirty days of such date.

219 (g) The commissioner shall implement presumptive eligibility for
220 children applying for Medicaid. Such presumptive eligibility
221 determinations shall be in accordance with applicable federal law and
222 regulations. The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance
223 with chapter 54, to establish standards and procedures for the
224 designation of organizations as qualified entities to grant presumptive
225 eligibility. In establishing such regulations, the commissioner shall
226 ensure the representation of state-wide and local organizations that
227 provide services to children of all ages in each region of the state.

228 [(f)] (h) The commissioner shall enter into a contract with an entity
229 to be a single point of entry servicer for applicants and enrollees under
230 the HUSKY Plan, Part A and Part B. The servicer shall jointly market
231 both Part A and Part B together as the HUSKY Plan. Such servicer shall
232 develop and implement public information and outreach activities
233 with community programs. Such servicer shall electronically transmit
234 data with respect to enrollment and disenrollment in the HUSKY Plan,
235 Part B to the commissioner who may transmit such data to the
236 Children's Health Council.

237 (i) To the extent permitted by federal law, the single point of entry
238 servicer may be one of the entities authorized to grant presumptive
239 eligibility under the HUSKY Plan, Part A.

240 [(g)] (j) The single point of entry servicer shall send an application
241 and supporting documents to the commissioner for determination of
242 eligibility of a child who resides in a household with a family income
243 of one hundred eighty-five per cent or less of the federal poverty level.
244 The servicer shall enroll eligible beneficiaries in the applicant's choice
245 of managed care plan.

246 [(h)] (k) Not more than twelve months after the determination of
247 eligibility for benefits under the HUSKY Plan, Part A and Part B and
248 annually thereafter, the commissioner or the servicer, as the case may
249 be, shall determine if the child continues to be eligible for the plan. The
250 commissioner or the servicer shall mail an application form to each
251 participant in the plan for the purposes of obtaining information to
252 make a determination on eligibility. To the extent permitted by federal
253 law, in determining eligibility for benefits under the HUSKY Plan, Part
254 A and Part B with respect to family income, the commissioner or the
255 servicer shall rely upon information provided in such form by the
256 participant unless the commissioner or the servicer has reason to
257 believe that such information is inaccurate or incomplete. The
258 determination of eligibility shall be coordinated with health plan open
259 enrollment periods.

260 [(i)] (l) The commissioner shall implement the HUSKY Plan, Part B
261 while in the process of adopting necessary policies and procedures in
262 regulation form in accordance with the provisions of section 17b-10.

263 [(j)] (m) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance
264 with chapter 54, to establish residency requirements and income
265 eligibility for participation in the HUSKY Plan, Part B and procedures
266 for a simplified mail-in application process. Notwithstanding the
267 provisions of section 17b-257b, such regulations shall provide that any
268 child adopted from another country by an individual who is a citizen
269 of the United States and a resident of this state shall be eligible for
270 benefits under the HUSKY Plan, Part B upon arrival in this state.

271 Sec. 6. Subsection (c) of section 17b-297 of the general statutes, as
272 amended by section 57 of public act 03-3 of the June 30 special session,
273 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
274 *from passage*):

275 (c) The commissioner shall, within available appropriations,
276 contract with qualified entities authorized to grant presumptive
277 eligibility, severe need schools and community-based organizations for

278 purposes of public education, outreach and recruitment of eligible
279 children, including the distribution of applications and information
280 regarding enrollment in the HUSKY Plan, Part A and Part B. In
281 awarding such contracts, the commissioner shall consider the
282 marketing, outreach and recruitment efforts of organizations. For the
283 purposes of this subsection, (1) "community-based organizations" shall
284 include, but not be limited to, day care centers, schools, school-based
285 health clinics, community-based diagnostic and treatment centers and
286 hospitals, and (2) "severe need school" means a school in which forty
287 per cent or more of the lunches served are served to students who are
288 eligible for free or reduced price lunches.

289 Sec. 7. Section 17b-290 of the general statutes, as amended by section
290 73 of public act 03-3 of the June 30 special session, is repealed and the
291 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

292 As used in sections 17b-289 to 17b-303, inclusive, [section 72 of this
293 act,] and section 16 of public act 97-1 of the October 29 special session*:

294 (1) "Applicant" means an individual over the age of eighteen years
295 who is a natural or adoptive parent or a legal guardian; a caretaker
296 relative, foster parent or stepparent with whom the child resides; or a
297 noncustodial parent under order of a court or family support
298 magistrate to provide health insurance, who applies for coverage
299 under the HUSKY Plan, Part B on behalf of a child and shall include a
300 child who is eighteen years of age or emancipated in accordance with
301 the provisions of sections 46b-150 to 46b-150e, inclusive, and who is
302 applying on his own behalf or on behalf of a minor dependent for
303 coverage under such plan;

304 (2) "Child" means an individual under nineteen years of age;

305 (3) "Coinsurance" means the sharing of health care expenses by the
306 insured and an insurer in a specified ratio;

307 (4) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Social Services;

308 (5) "Copayment" means a payment made on behalf of an enrollee for
309 a specified service under the HUSKY Plan, Part B;

310 (6) "Cost sharing" means arrangements made on behalf of an
311 enrollee whereby an applicant pays a portion of the cost of health
312 services, sharing costs with the state and includes copayments,
313 premiums, deductibles and coinsurance;

314 (7) "Deductible" means the amount of out-of-pocket expenses that
315 would be paid for health services on behalf of an enrollee before
316 becoming payable by the insurer;

317 (8) "Department" means the Department of Social Services;

318 (9) "Durable medical equipment" means durable medical
319 equipment, as defined in Section 1395x(n) of the Social Security Act;

320 (10) "Eligible beneficiary" means a child who meets the
321 requirements specified in section 17b-292, as amended by this act,
322 except a child excluded under the provisions of Subtitle J of Public
323 Law 105-33 or a child of any municipal employee eligible for
324 employer-sponsored insurance on or after October 30, 1997, provided a
325 child of such a municipal employee may be eligible for coverage under
326 the HUSKY Plan, Part B if dependent coverage was terminated due to
327 an extreme economic hardship on the part of the employee, as
328 determined by the commissioner;

329 (11) "Enrollee" means an eligible beneficiary who receives services
330 from a managed care plan under the HUSKY Plan, Part B;

331 (12) "Family" means any combination of the following: (A) An
332 individual; (B) the individual's spouse; (C) any child of the individual
333 or such spouse; or (D) the legal guardian of any such child if the
334 guardian resides with the child;

335 (13) "HUSKY Plan, Part A" means assistance provided to children
336 pursuant to section 17b-261, as amended by this act;

337 (14) "HUSKY Plan, Part B" means the health insurance plan for
338 children established pursuant to the provisions of sections 17b-289 to
339 17b-303, inclusive, and section 16 of public act 97-1 of the October 29
340 special session*;

341 (15) "HUSKY Plus programs" means two supplemental health
342 insurance programs established pursuant to section 17b-294 for
343 medically eligible enrollees of the HUSKY Plan, Part B whose medical
344 needs cannot be accommodated within the basic benefit package
345 offered to enrollees. One program shall supplement coverage for those
346 medically eligible enrollees with intensive physical health needs and
347 the other program shall supplement coverage for those medically
348 eligible enrollees with intensive behavioral health needs;

349 (16) "Income" means income as calculated in the same manner as
350 under the Medicaid program pursuant to section 17b-261, as amended
351 by this act;

352 (17) "Managed care plan" means a plan offered by an entity that
353 contracts with the department to provide benefits to enrollees on a
354 prepaid basis;

355 (18) "Parent" means a natural parent, stepparent, adoptive parent,
356 guardian or custodian of a child;

357 (19) "Premium" means any required payment made by an
358 individual to offset or pay in full the capitation rate under the HUSKY
359 Plan, Part B;

360 (20) "Preventive care and services" means: (A) Child preventive
361 care, including periodic and interperiodic well-child visits, routine
362 immunizations, health screenings and routine laboratory tests; (B)
363 prenatal care, including care of all complications of pregnancy; (C) care
364 of newborn infants, including attendance at high-risk deliveries and
365 normal newborn care; (D) WIC evaluations; (E) child abuse assessment
366 required under sections 17a-106a and 46b-129a; (F) preventive dental
367 care for children; and (G) periodicity schedules and reporting based on

368 the standards specified by the American Academy of Pediatrics;

369 (21) "Primary and preventive health care services" means the
370 services of licensed physicians, optometrists, nurses, nurse
371 practitioners, midwives and other related health care professionals
372 which are provided on an outpatient basis, including routine well-
373 child visits, diagnosis and treatment of illness and injury, laboratory
374 tests, diagnostic x-rays, prescription drugs, radiation therapy,
375 chemotherapy, hemodialysis, emergency room services, and outpatient
376 alcohol and substance abuse services, as defined by the commissioner;

377 (22) "Qualified entity" means any entity: (A) Eligible for payments
378 under a state plan approved under Medicaid and which provides
379 medical services under the HUSKY Plan, Part A, or (B) that is a
380 qualified entity, as defined in 42 USC 1396r-1a, as amended by Section
381 708 of Public Law 106-554 and that is determined by the commissioner
382 to be capable of making the determination of eligibility. The
383 commissioner shall provide qualified entities with such forms as are
384 necessary for an application to be made on behalf of a child under the
385 HUSKY Plan, Part A and information on how to assist parents,
386 guardians and other persons in completing and filing such forms;

387 (23) "WIC" means the federal Special Supplemental Food Program
388 for Women, Infants and Children administered by the Department of
389 Public Health pursuant to section 19a-59c.

390 Sec. 8. Section 17b-261 of the general statutes, as amended by section
391 10 public act 03-2, section 2 of public act 03-28, section 7 of public act
392 03-268 and section 63 of public act 03-3 of the June 30 special session, is
393 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
394 *passage*):

395 (a) Medical assistance shall be provided for any otherwise eligible
396 person whose income, including any available support from legally
397 liable relatives and the income of the person's spouse or dependent
398 child, is not more than one hundred forty-three per cent, pending
399 approval of a federal waiver applied for pursuant to subsection (d) of

400 this section, of the benefit amount paid to a person with no income
401 under the temporary family assistance program in the appropriate
402 region of residence and if such person is an institutionalized
403 individual as defined in Section 1917(c) of the Social Security Act, 42
404 USC 1396p(c), and has not made an assignment or transfer or other
405 disposition of property for less than fair market value for the purpose
406 of establishing eligibility for benefits or assistance under this section.
407 Any such disposition shall be treated in accordance with Section
408 1917(c) of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396p(c). Any disposition of
409 property made on behalf of an applicant or recipient or the spouse of
410 an applicant or recipient by a guardian, conservator, person
411 authorized to make such disposition pursuant to a power of attorney
412 or other person so authorized by law shall be attributed to such
413 applicant, recipient or spouse. A disposition of property ordered by a
414 court shall be evaluated in accordance with the standards applied to
415 any other such disposition for the purpose of determining eligibility.
416 The commissioner shall establish the standards for eligibility for
417 medical assistance at one hundred forty-three per cent of the benefit
418 amount paid to a family unit of equal size with no income under the
419 temporary family assistance program in the appropriate region of
420 residence, pending federal approval, except that the medical assistance
421 program shall provide coverage to persons under the age of nineteen
422 up to one hundred eighty-five per cent of the federal poverty level
423 without an asset limit. Said medical assistance program shall also
424 provide coverage to persons under the age of nineteen and their
425 parents and needy caretaker relatives who qualify for coverage under
426 Section 1931 of the Social Security Act with family income up to one
427 hundred fifty per cent of the federal poverty level without an asset
428 limit, upon the request of such a person or upon a redetermination of
429 eligibility. Such levels shall be based on the regional differences in
430 such benefit amount, if applicable, unless such levels based on regional
431 differences are not in conformance with federal law. Any income in
432 excess of the applicable amounts shall be applied as may be required
433 by said federal law, and assistance shall be granted for the balance of
434 the cost of authorized medical assistance. All contracts entered into on

435 and after July 1, 1997, pursuant to this section shall include provisions
436 for collaboration of managed care organizations with the Healthy
437 Families Connecticut Program established pursuant to section 17a-56.
438 The Commissioner of Social Services shall provide applicants for
439 assistance under this section, at the time of application, with a written
440 statement advising them of the effect of an assignment or transfer or
441 other disposition of property on eligibility for benefits or assistance.

442 (b) For the purposes of the Medicaid program, the Commissioner of
443 Social Services shall consider parental income and resources as
444 available to a child under eighteen years of age who is living with his
445 or her parents and is blind or disabled for purposes of the Medicaid
446 program, or to any other child under twenty-one years of age who is
447 living with his or her parents.

448 (c) For the purposes of determining eligibility for the Medicaid
449 program, an available asset is one that is actually available to the
450 applicant or one that the applicant has the legal right, authority or
451 power to obtain or to have applied for the applicant's general or
452 medical support. If the terms of a trust provide for the support of an
453 applicant, the refusal of a trustee to make a distribution from the trust
454 does not render the trust an unavailable asset. Notwithstanding the
455 provisions of this subsection, the availability of funds in a trust or
456 similar instrument funded in whole or in part by the applicant or the
457 applicant's spouse shall be determined pursuant to the Omnibus
458 Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, 42 USC 1396p. The provisions of
459 this subsection shall not apply to special needs trust, as defined in 42
460 USC 1396p(d)(4)(A).

461 (d) The transfer of an asset in exchange for other valuable
462 consideration shall be allowable to the extent the value of the other
463 valuable consideration is equal to or greater than the value of the asset
464 transferred.

465 (e) The Commissioner of Social Services shall seek a waiver from
466 federal law to permit federal financial participation for Medicaid

467 expenditures for families with incomes of one hundred forty-three per
468 cent of the temporary family assistance program payment standard.

469 [(f) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
470 on or after April 1, 2003, all parent and needy caretaker relatives with
471 incomes exceeding one hundred per cent of the federal poverty level,
472 who are receiving medical assistance pursuant to this section, shall be
473 ineligible for such medical assistance. On and after February 28, 2003,
474 the Department of Social Services shall not accept applications for
475 medical assistance program coverage under Section 1931 of the Social
476 Security Act from parent and needy caretaker relatives with incomes
477 exceeding one hundred per cent of the federal poverty level until on or
478 after July 1, 2005.]

479 [(g)] (f) To the extent permitted by federal law, Medicaid eligibility
480 shall be extended for two years to a family who becomes ineligible for
481 medical assistance under Section 1931 of the Social Security Act while
482 employed or due to receipt of child support income or a family with an
483 adult who, within six months of becoming ineligible under Section
484 1931 of the Social Security Act becomes employed.

485 [(h) An institutionalized spouse applying for Medicaid and having a
486 spouse living in the community shall be required, to the maximum
487 extent permitted by law, to divert income to such community spouse
488 in order to raise the community spouse's income to the level of the
489 minimum monthly needs allowance, as described in Section 1924 of
490 the Social Security Act. Such diversion of income shall occur before the
491 community spouse is allowed to retain assets in excess of the
492 community spouse protected amount described in Section 1924 of the
493 Social Security Act. The Commissioner of Social Services, pursuant to
494 section 17b-10, may implement the provisions of this subsection while
495 in the process of adopting regulations, provided the commissioner
496 prints notice of intent to adopt the regulations in the Connecticut Law
497 Journal within twenty days of adopting such policy. Such policy shall
498 be valid until the time final regulations are effective.]

499 Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The HUSKY Plan, Part B
500 shall provide the following minimum benefit coverage:

501 (1) No copayments for preventive care and services;

502 (2) No copayments for the following medical services: Inpatient
503 physician and hospital, outpatient surgical, ambulance for emergency
504 medical conditions, skilled nursing, home health, hospice, short-term
505 rehabilitation and physical therapy, occupational and speech therapies,
506 lab and x-ray preadmission testing, prosthetics, durable medical
507 equipment other than powered wheelchairs, dental exams every six
508 months, x-rays, fillings, fluoride treatments and oral surgery. For the
509 purposes of this subdivision, in accordance with the National
510 Committee for Quality Assurance, an emergency medical condition is
511 a condition such that a prudent layperson, acting reasonably, would
512 believe that emergency medical treatment is needed;

513 (3) Outpatient physician visits, hearing examinations, nurse
514 midwives, nurse practitioners, podiatrists, chiropractors and
515 natureopaths;

516 (4) Prescription drugs;

517 (5) Eye care and optical hardware;

518 (6) Orthodontia;

519 (7) Mental health inpatient maximum of sixty days with allowable
520 substitution of alternative levels of care and outpatient maximum of
521 thirty visits with supplemental coverage available under a HUSKY
522 Plus program for medically eligible enrollees, provided coverage
523 under the HUSKY Plan, Part B and HUSKY Plus programs shall be
524 consistent with the provisions of the Mental Health Parity Act, Public
525 Law 104-204, and sections 38a-488a, 38a-514 and 38a-533 of the general
526 statutes;

527 (8) Substance abuse treatment which shall include, detoxification
528 and inpatient treatment for drug dependency for a period of time not

529 to exceed sixty days in a calendar year, detoxification and inpatient
 530 treatment for alcohol dependency for a period of time not to exceed
 531 forty-five days in a calendar year and outpatient visits for drug and
 532 alcohol dependency for a period of time not to exceed sixty days in a
 533 calendar year; and

534 (9) No deductibles shall be charged, no preexisting condition
 535 exclusion shall be applied, and there shall be no coinsurance or annual
 536 or lifetime benefit maximums.

537 (b) The Commissioner of Social Services may establish a schedule of
 538 reasonable copayments for coverage provided under subdivisions (3)
 539 to (8), inclusive, of subsection (a) of this section.

540 Sec. 10. (*Effective from passage*) Section 12 of public act 03-2, sections
 541 69 and 72 of public act 03-3 of the June 30 special session and section 11
 542 of public act 03-1 of the September 8 special session are repealed.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>

HS

Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

APP